

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination, and further and favorable reconsideration of the subject application in light of the following remarks, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, are respectfully requested.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 23, 24, and 37 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation and/or divisional applications directed to any of the canceled subject matter. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has rejected claims 23, 24, and 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Reszka et al. (WO 99/67809). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Nevertheless, to expedite prosecution in the present application and not to acquiesce to the Examiner's rejection, claims 23, 24, and 37 have been canceled thereby rendering such rejection moot. As such, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 25-33 are allowed.

In view of the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited

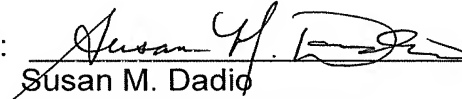
In the event that there are any questions relating to this Amendment and Reply, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would

telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 22, 2009

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